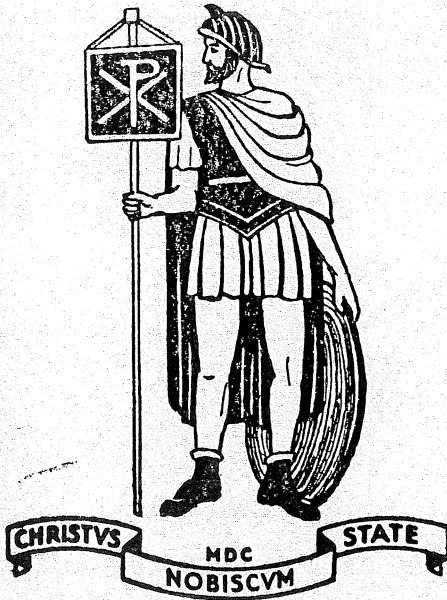


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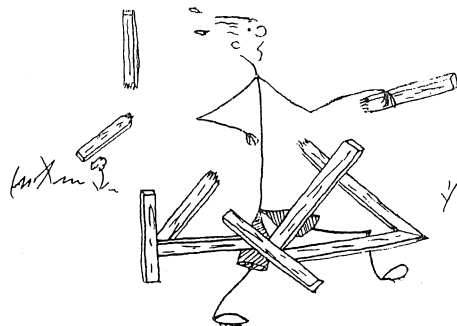
Alcester Grammar



School Record

July, 1949

SPORTS DAY SNAPSHOTS

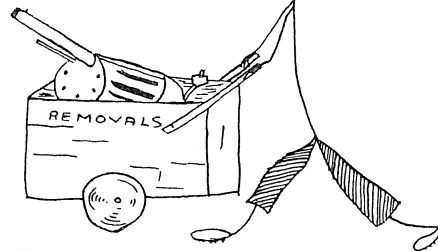


IN THE HURDLES ADKINS TOOK
EVERYTHING BEFORE HIM



CROSS COUNTRY

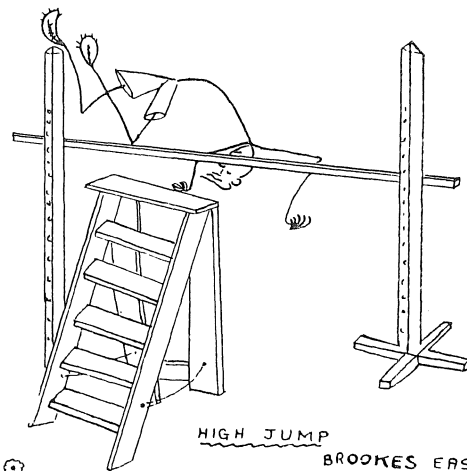
TARVER SOON
SHOWED HIMSELF
TO BE PREPARED
FOR THE DISTANCE



100 yds.

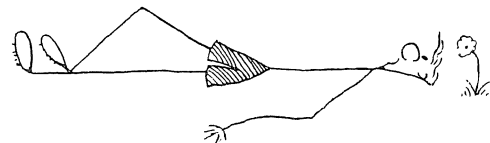
OFF WITH THE GUN.

1949



HIGH JUMP

BROOKES EASILY
CLEARED 4' 5"



880 yds

BAYLIS FLAT OUT FOR A WIN

T. P. Fielding (Low. V.b.)

Alcester Grammar School Record.

No. 93

July, 1949

EDITOR—MR. V. V. DRULLER.

COMMITTEE—

Josephine Findon, Dorothy Rose, Mary Burrows, Jennifer Birch,
Eileen Lawrence, Prestidge, Holifield, Finnemore.

EDITORIAL

At the end of another school year, a number of Senior pupils will have completed their last term at A.G.S. We would bring to their notice the Old Scholars' Guild, which is organised to keep those who have left school in touch with one another and with the school. It is open to all former pupils when they reach the age of sixteen. Reunions are held twice a year, in December and in July. No formal application for membership is required. Anyone who wishes to join should attend a Reunion, where he will be able to get in touch with the Secretary, J. M. Stewart, who will be pleased to enrol him. Should anyone require further information about the Guild he should communicate with the Secretary at Hoo Mill, Nr. Alcester. It is hoped that all who have left school during the present year will take the opportunity to become members.

SCHOOL REGISTER

VALETE

*Heighway, B. M. (VI), 1941-49.

Roberts, K. M. (VI), 1943-49.

Watton, M. (Upp.V.a), 1944-49.

Miles, A. R. (Upp.V.b), 1944-49.

Harman, A. E. (Low.V.a), 1945-49.

Langford, J. D. (Low.V.a), 1945-49.

Smart, J. M. (Low.V.a), 1945-49.

Daffern, I. L. (Low. V.b), 1945-49.

Houghton, B. (Low. V.b), 1945-49.

Hunt, W. R. (Low.V.b), 1945-49.

Payne, D. R. (Low.V.b), 1945-49.

Ingram, B. E. (Upp.IV.b), 1946-49.

Simcox, M. C. (Upp.IV.b), 1946-49.

Moore, M. J. (III.b), 1948-49.

* Prefect.

SALVETE

Ebborn, J. A. (III.b).

There have been 297 pupils in attendance this term.

THE OLD SCHOLARS' GUILD*Hon. Secretary :*

J. M. Stewart

President :

J. S. C. Wright.

Hon. Treasurer :

Mrs. M. Feast.

SUMMER REUNION.

The Summer Reunion will be held at the School on Saturday, July 23rd., and the programme will include all the usual items, with the exception, we hope, of rain. It will be noticed that the date has been fixed after the end of term to enable Old Scholars at Universities or teaching at other schools to attend. Also we should like to welcome those pupils, leaving school this term, who would like to join the Guild.

Invitations have only been sent to those who paid subscriptions in 1948, but all Old Scholars are of course very welcome. Anyone who wishes to come and has not received an invitation may come if he gives notice as soon as possible to the Hon. Secretary, J. M. Stewart, Hoo Mill, Haselor, Nr. Alcester, stating whether he wishes to play tennis or cricket.

Once again we have to make a charge of 2s. 6d. to cover the cost of supper, but this year the money will be collected during the meal, to save the trouble and cost of buying Postal Orders.

DANCE.

Old Scholars will be pleased to learn that the Dance, held in the Alcester Town Hall on April 19th., was a great success. A record gathering of a hundred made merry to the music of Billy Webb and his Orchestra, and over £11 were added to the Funds.

OLD SCHOLARS' NEWS

W. McCarthy has been continuing his running successes now that he is with the Forces. In his battalion sports he won the mile and was second in the half-mile.

J. H. Ganderton and B. Jones are now in the R.A.F., and D. W. Dipple is in the R.E.M.E.

S. K. Walker and P. E. Wheeler have passed the Final Examination of the Law Society and are now Solicitors.

J. Stewart has been elected a member of the Alcester Rural District Council.

Jean Buller has passed her final examination in Medicine at Birmingham University.

Towards the end of 1948, J. W. Whitehouse visited Czechoslovakia as a member of the Oxford University Labour Club Delegation which was investigating reports of student purges in that country. Most of their available time was spent in the neighbourhood of Brno, capital of Moravia, and they were made very welcome by the students of Masaryk University.

Winifred Kessey has recently taken up an appointment in Cairo as representative of the Elizabeth Arden organisation in Egypt.

Jean Aspinwall, who has now completed her course at the Shropshire College of Domestic Science and Dairywork, has been successful in obtaining a first class certificate in Dairywork and a second class certificate in Poultry Husbandry.

BIRTHS

On September 1st, 1948, to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Cadman (nee Barbara Greenhill)—a son.

On February 5th, to Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Savage (nee Marguerite Taylor)—a daughter.

On April 8th, to Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Luker—a son.

On April 10th, to Mr. and Mrs. L. Henderson (nee Molly Bryan)—a daughter.

On April 11th, to Mr. and Mrs. G. Shephard (nee Janet Hill)—a son.

On May 2nd, to Mr. and Mrs. C. Bunting—a daughter.

On May 16th, to Mr. and Mrs. K. J. Scattergood—a daughter.

MARRIAGES

On April 2nd, at Perry Barr, Charles Henry Stiles (scholar 1929-31) to Edith Kathleen Lenore Pearce.

On April 18th, at Coughton, Peter Thomas McCarthy (scholar 1943-44) to Margaret Anne Cotton (scholar 1934-44).

On April 20th, at Coughton, John P. Yapp (scholar 1934-38) to Dorothy Lilian Lane.

On April 27th, at Arrow, Ronald F. Read to Beryl Margaret Price (scholar 1932-36).

On June 4th, at Atch Lench, A. F. Roden to Frances Joyce Jackson (scholar 1925-35).

DEATH

On March 30th, at Alcester, R. Colin Baylis (scholar 1922-23), aged 36 years.

THROUGH THE BOOKING OFFICE WINDOW

"Two-and-a-half to Birmingham ; return please. Which platform does the train go from ? "

Yes, you recognise the scene—a railway station. It could be *any* railway station, but it is only a small country station, situate in a busy little world of its own, the connecting link between the village and the outside world. The life of the district is centred round it.

Who said that life in the country was dull? Let him see the variety of people who pass through the booking hall in one day and he would change his opinion.

There is the lady who is regaling me with her life history in instalments. She arrives for her ticket about five minutes before her train is due. In between booking other passengers I hear all her misfortunes. Life seems to have been very hard on her. Just as she is getting to a really engrossing portion of her history, her train usually runs in and I have to wait for the next instalment—rather like a Dick Barton serial.

Yet that lady is as nothing compared with the vicar's wife. She is always in a hurry, getting to the station just as her train rounds the bend and then wanting details of the most complicated train services. But she does it in the most winsome manner. "Oh, I'm so sorry I'm late again. Yes, one return to Euston please . . . and could you tell me how I get to Caister? . . . I think it's somewhere in Norfolk. It's very kind of you. Oh dear, is this my train coming in now? "

My favourite character, however, travels on the early morning workman's train. As the week draws on towards Friday and the weekly pay packet, Ned is regularly in a state of impecuniosity. He tries to cadge a ticket on his expectations.

"Miss . . . er . . . look, I must 'ave left me money at 'ome agen. Could yer let us 'ave a ticket? I'll bring yer the money tomorrer . . . for sure I will." Once I refused. The next week found him broke again, but this time he brought me a surety for the anticipated loan in the shape of an old-fashioned pair of binoculars ! Now the mid-week difficulty is circumvented by his taking out a season ticket at the beginning of the week.

I suppose every village has its antagonists, and our village is not the exception. The enmity started just before the Rural District Council election. The electoral messages of the two opponents were caustic in the extreme. The result of the election intensified the struggle between them. They are deadly enemies. This is unfortunate because they both travel by the same train to the city each morning. Whereas I listen to the spleen of the one, Charlie listens to the invective of the other.

Charlie is our porter. He is a large, top-heavy man, a mixture of an almost incredible sentimentality and a fierce, clumsy toughness. He has the most ferocious manner imaginable and an inimitable way of telling a story. He talks of syringing a pig and of nationalising a German—almost as good as Mrs. Malaprop herself ! Needless to say that he knows all the gossip and scandal (and come to the country to hear scandal !) of the village.

No, life at the station would be considerably duller without Charlie's cheerful greeting, "Hello, Ugly, how are yah? "

O.S.

STUDLEY

(Suggested by "Adlestrop")

Well I remember Studley—name,
And view—one summer's afternoon,
My train went 'neath a small humped bridge,
And stopped. The air was warm and still.

We stood there—by the sign ; a boy
Got in, with blackberries. Behind,
Cars went across the bridge; in front
The engine hissed, and birds were singing.

On either side were woods and lanes,
And pleasant fields, with golden corn ;
And in the distance was a town—
Its church tower pointing up to Heaven.

The whistle blew—soon I was in
The Black Country, where oft' I thought
Of Studley, on the boundary
Of Warwickshire and Worcestershire.

C. J. E. KEMPSTER
(VI).

A STICKY MOMENT

Making toffee, I thought, would be fun,
So I got out the book to see how it was done.
For a tin of treacle I then looked around,
Which I found on a shelf high up from the ground.

I stood on a chair and lifted it down,
In a saucepan I poured it all sticky and brown.
I next mixed in butter with greatest of care,
Because that was all that mother could spare.

But then it began to boil and to bubble,
And that was the start of all my trouble.
When was it ready ? I hadn't a clue !
Was it quick like custard ? or slow like stew ?

When I thought it was ready, I picked up the lot.
I wonder why handles get terribly hot ?
Then in rushed the cat and I fell with a yell ;
Of a stickier moment I ne'er hope to tell.

FRANCES HIGHMAN
(Upp.V.a).

THE JUMPING CINDER

One winter night when I was only five years old, I was standing by the fire ready for bed. My mother and brother were sitting reading quietly when I suddenly squealed and hopped round and round the room. My mother was so startled that she dropped her book and asked me what was the matter. At first I did not speak, but after a while soon explained that a cinder had jumped out of the fire into my slipper. Strangely enough I have still got that mark on the side of my foot.

KAY FIELDING
(III.b).

A VISIT TO GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

It was due to the generosity of some anonymous person that the rector decided that he, the organist, and the choir of our church should have an extra outing this year. We had previously received an invitation from the Bishop of Gloucester to attend Evensong at the Cathedral. So it was agreed that this was the opportunity to accept.

We were told to assemble at two o'clock for the coach to pick us up. When the coach did arrive, the younger members of our party made one mad rush for the back seat (the fascination of which I have yet to discover—although I am told one gets a longer ride !). The more dignified members of our party took their seats also, after much discussion as to the best place to sit so that they would not be jarred by the vibration from the engine or wheels. We eventually set off, and travelled by the route which the driver said was best for scenery. We later found that it was the longest and had restricted our time for sight-seeing.

We arrived at three-thirty, and were immediately met by the Canon-in-charge. He conducted us round, pointing out the monuments, memorials, the magnificent Norman pillars and the unique flying arches, all of which were extremely interesting. He also explained the meaning of various plaques on the walls, and the odd scratchings and carvings in the stonework which were the builders' trade marks.

Then we were told that the service was due to begin, and were conducted to our places of honour in the choir stalls. The massive organ began to play ; it is very impressive as the sound echoes through the Cathedral. Then the choir-boys entered in their red cassocks with white surplices and ruffles. They took their seats and looked inquiringly round and seemed surprised to see visitors. They had the angelic faces one always associates with choir-boys, and their singing was beautiful and very inspiring.

After the service we took another brief look around at the numerous chapels, built for various occasions, and also at the huge canopy over the pulpit which, we were informed, had only just been added. It was made of oak, with in-laid patterns. It was said to weigh five hundredweight and was strung from an arch by a single cord. I can quite believe the Canon when he said he felt a little anxious while preaching.

Once more outside we were greeted by the choristers gorging themselves with ice-creams. Then we were taken to Church House for tea, and here again all the places of interest were shown to us.

At seven o'clock we boarded our coach, and, after a pleasant drive, returned home, having had a most enjoyable outing.

DAAPHNE BAILEY

(Upp.V.b.)

OUR CHURCH CLOCK

That old clock, a visitor cries,
Was an hour slow, when I saw the sun rise.
Tonight I expect an hour fast it will be,
When the sun sets over the distant sea.

Three hundred years since the clock was born,
And now its works are getting worn,
Its wheels, its pulleys, its springs, its chimes,
Cannot keep up with modern times.

But still it bravely chimes the hour,
High up there in the church tower,
Although its time is not always right,
To young and old 'tis a welcome sight.

To this very day the old clock chimes,
It still carries on, through all the times,
And though the visitors always mock,
We think the world of our old clock.

W. HITCHINGS
(Low.V.a).

AN INTERESTING VISIT

The most interesting place we visited while on holiday at Hastings last summer was the old Norman Castle.

It stands high on the cliffs overlooking the English Channel. There is not much left of the Castle itself, only a few crumbling walls being now left standing. The most interesting part was the underground dungeons.

There was a large number of sightseers beside ourselves, so we had to queue up. One moment we were in the brilliant sunshine with a most refreshing sea wind blowing, and the next we were finding our way down the dimly lit stone steps. We soon noticed the contrast in the atmosphere ; it was hot and stuffy, and as soon as the last of our number was inside the long narrow steep passage, the door was shut behind us, so that did not improve the atmosphere.

What gruesome stories we heard from the guide about those who were imprisoned there so many years ago ! We saw fire-places where charcoal had been burnt to suffocate the prisoners. The guide explained why the dungeons were called " Whispering dungeons." The guard would stand in his room above with his ear to an ear-shaped hollow in the wall listening to everything the prisoners were saying in their cells below. This was possible because all the walls in the passages were curved.

It was all most interesting, but how glad we were to emerge into the sunlight and fresh air again.

WENDY LOVELL
(Low.IV.a).

BEING PHOTOGRAPHED AT SCHOOL

First, being arranged in height, which usually completely separates you from your friends, however much you may stoop or stretch. Next, to file along and join the boys, who are already erected on a wobbly structure consisting of forms, tables, chairs, and, for the unfortunate juniors, the ground. When we have been moved and shuffled around until we are "just so," the staff walk sedately over and take their seats in a dignified manner.

Then the photographer takes charge, and having told us to watch the camera, promptly disappears behind it. Having moved the camera along the lines about twice while we try and smile, he reappears and explains that now he is going to take the photo so we mustn't move. For the third time a terrific effort is made to smile, or at least look pleasant. When this is completed the photographer wishes to take another photo. By this time we are all very restless and it is very difficult to smile without feeling you look like a "Cheshire" cat or else "stuck." To make matters worse, the sun often has to be waited for. The order is then given for us to return to our classes, having missed one period of General Activities.

Why is it always arranged so that boring lessons are never missed ?

JANE DAYER-SMITH
(Upp. IV.a).

PAINTERS . . . LIMITED

"The dog-kennel looks drab," remarked Harry one day

To his friend Philip, from over the way,

"A coat of fresh paint would do very well,

And as for old Fido, he'd think it just swell !"

To the tool-shed they went, the green paint to seek,

But alas, the green paint-tin had got a large leak !

The green paint had set as hard as a brick ;

"But this yellow," said Philip, "might do the trick !"

The tin of yellow was all they could find,

"And I'm certain," said Harry "that Fido won't mind !"

So on it was dabbed, but they soon were to know

That it didn't look right in daffodil yellow !

They gazed at their work, not with pride, but with doubt,

When, "Boys, come here !" they heard Harry's father shout.

They trembled and shook, for they knew by his voice

That this was no moment for them to rejoice !

Into Father's study together they went,

Their legs were like jelly, their courage was spent :

And the look that he gave them as they entered the door,

Made them both quail very much more.

"Boys !" said Father, "Come on, now, speak !

Your intentions were good, but your colour sense weak !

Between you, you will buy a new tin of green paint !"

The boys they said nothing, but just had to faint !

R. SALLIS

(Low.V.a).

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS ?

Oui ! At least I thought I did before I entered that dreaded room, walked unsteadily behind that rather " bilious-looking " screen and collapsed on a forlorn chair from which I could see the previous victim to me being examined.

As I nervously fingered the already smudgy card on which was printed the passage I had to read, I remember wondering how I should ever manage to traverse the stretch of floor between my chair and the examiner's. At last, however, it was my turn. I stumbled across, and after a faltering " Bon jour, Madame," I commenced to read, forgetting, I'm sure, all the excellent advice of my teacher on liaisons and such like. After that it was not quite so bad, except that unaccountably and unfor- giveably I got Daphne du Maurier and William Shakespeare, their books, " Jamaica Inn " and " Macbeth," muddled !

Eventually, however, my ordeal was over, and with a breathless " Au revoir, Madame," I thankfully closed the door on the FRENCH ORAL EXAMINER.

JANET DAVIES
(Upp.V.a).

ON THE OTHER SIDE

One day, during my holidays, I went to the school where my sister teaches. I was on the other side : instead of being a pupil I was a " teacher."

I took the infants while my sister, who had been ill, rested.

The first thing we did was Arithmetic, which I survived after racking my brains adding six and four. Then I took the " darlings " out into the playground for P.T. The next lesson was Reading. The books used now, I discovered, are still the same as I used in my younger days, which consisted of sentences like " The cat sat on the mat."

At last playtime. Here I relaxed. After playtime I read them a story, which they listened to attentively, and then asked them questions on it.

Dinner time ; they ate their dinner, then scampered out to play while the teachers had theirs in peace.

Two o'clock soon came round ; in they came. As it was Friday they played with toys for the beginning of the afternoon, except two smaller children, who had a peaceful sleep. The latter part of the day I took them for handwork, in which time they made flower vases out of jam jars by sticking paper round them.

Half-past three, what a relief ! I returned home sympathizing with teachers.

JEAN ARCHER
(Upp.V.a.)

PATH TO SUEZ

My journey began in Woolwich, near the throbbing hub of a great Empire. I was a member of Draft L_X, bound, so we thought, for Malta and looking forward to my journey. We travelled by train to Glasgow through the night, past sleeping towns and villages, peaceful countryside and turbulent cities. The lights of London disappeared, giving way to darkened houses, the chalky Chiltern and high woods of Cotswold; the great Midland plain, its flourishing greenery turned to monotone greys, lay still and beautiful under the July moon's soft radiance. The train rushed on through the night, through the thin rain over Derbyshire and out under a light-clouded sky over the border country, whose rolling fells and vales, steeped in ever-changing lights, suggested space and atmosphere. At last at day-break we rolled into Glasgow, where on arrival at St. Enoch's we were immediately driven to our ship, the transport Empire Halladale, and that night sailed out down the Clyde, catching a last fleeting glimpse through the rain and mists of green fields and high cloud-covered peaks, past the hailing station of Greenock and out into the open sea.

The week which followed was one of those unforgettable experiences in a man's life; days of sun, wind and sea-spaces, glorious sunrises and sunsets, distant tossing ships wallowing along the ocean highway to the tune of hissing spray, throbbing engines and roughing winds. Cape St. Vincent with its walled monastery, shining brilliant white on its cruel glinting cliffs; Gibraltar at two a.m., silent under cloud-covered sky; the Tunisian mountains covered with green scrub; Cape Bon and Pantelaria, and at last we steamed into harbour at Malta.

Crowds of gaily-decorated boats greeted us as our vessel came to its mooring in the beautiful dark-green crystal water of the Grand Harbour. We spent a week on the island with its gay southern life, beautiful bays and soft warm nights. Its people, after their heavy bombing of the war, had recovered their carefree ways; mostly very poor, they have that sunny optimistic attitude which, combined with a deeply religious fervour, makes their life seem so happy. In addition to their hard work of tilling the brown soil of their terraced, goat-covered hill-sides and catering for the innumerable tourists and "birds of passage," they play good games of football and unsurpassable polo, for they nearly live in the water.

Towards the end of July we moved to Tripoli and to the garrison at Zavia, a small station on the Tripoli-Gabes road. We found a country, bordering the sea, covered with forests of palms, and acre on acre of fruit trees. Tripoli has been developed to become a self-supporting colony by its hard-working Italians. The Arabs are desperately poor, but are still picturesque and old-fashioned. They still use their bullock ploughs and donkey carts. Camels carry their belongings to and from the bazaars of the towns. Tripoli itself is divided into two towns, the Old City with its stately minarets and small square houses separated by narrow twisting streets and alleys, and the new Italian part with its grand harbour entrance, fine domed Cathedral, and many modern shops with wide flower-planted streets.

The Arabs, unlike many of the Egyptians, are more to be trusted, and when given posts of authority, carry out their duties perhaps even more conscientiously than many British people do these days.

There are fine examples of Roman remains to be seen at Leptis Magna and Sabratha, the latter possessing the complete foundations of the walled city with its second century basilica and public temples and baths.

In late October we left Tripoli, bound for Egypt, via Malta and Greece. The first day's journey from Tripoli to Malta proved quite rough, as our 1,000 ton ex-corvette ploughed her way through a heavy swell and light rain. Most of us slept on deck that night, rolled in our hammocks and warmed and protected from rain by the funnel. At Malta we changed ships and left port the same day aboard the 21,000 ton Canadian Pacific liner, "*Empress of Australia*." As we awoke on the dawn of the second day out, we found ourselves in a great arm of the sea, stretching up to the port of Piræus. On both shores of this sea-loch mountains towered into the sky, and in the east the sky gradually turned through the beautiful tints of dawn until the sun shot above the tip of the southern peaks to bathe the whole prospect in its autumnal rays. One was struck by the peaceful atmosphere, partly due to the sun being less burning than in the sandy Tripoli coast belt. The port of Piræus was very busy: craft of every type and description ploughed their way through the calm blue water. Behind Piræus we could see the white mass of building which was once the centre of the world, Athens, with its Acropolis and Parthenon just distinguishable through the haze.

After dropping troops and supplies, we sailed back down the gulf and round the southern capes until the following morning saw us at the approaches to Salonika. The beauty of the port was astounding. Again it was approached by a long arm of the sea flanked by shaggy outcrops of rock jutting out into the mirror of the water, like a thin bare hand, such as the old Greek boatman held out for scraps of bread and meat, as he sculled around the sides of our vessel. Again the sun shone in soft bathing rays through a morning vapour, light as gossamer, and was reflected off white buildings and the gently lapping waters in a myriad flecks of dazzling colour. Indeed such was its beauty and atmosphere that it reminded me of home and an autumn sun in England. Regretfully, for we were all enjoying the cruise, we left at lunch time and steamed down the eastern coast, where cloud-topped Olympus and her neighbours rose into the sky.

Then, as the afternoon wore on we came to a group of scattered islands, far-flung as if by some past giant and planted in the sea in picturesque confusion. We entered an area of fiords, the land rising steeply from the sea in green-covered slopes with here and there a cluster of white houses, no doubt occupied by some fisher folk.

The dark blue water was ploughed into a golden furrow by a ship going north, as with the last rays of the sun shining in a dazzling blood-red dagger into the vessel's side, we left the home waters of Greece and saw no more land except a distant Crete until we reached Port Said and the Suez Canal, where my journey came to an end, as I joined my regiment, and at once got down to work.

GUNNER.

NOTES AND NEWS

The Summer term opened on Tuesday, May 3rd, and closes on Thursday, July 21st.

The Cross-country races were run on Friday, March 25th, the senior event resulting in an easy victory for Tarver.

The Mile took place on Wednesday, March 30th. In an exciting finish Tarver won by a short margin.

On Friday, April 8th, talks on careers were given to senior boys by Mr. Hemmingway, and to senior girls by Miss Lusk, both of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Hockey colours were presented to Janet Holder and Josephine Holder.

Sports Day was Thursday, June 2nd.

Half term was arranged for Friday, June 3rd, to Wednesday, June 8th, inclusive.

On Wednesday, June 15th, a party of the Sixth, Upper Fifth, and Lower Fifth forms, with Miss Webley, Miss Young and Mr. Druller, attended a performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon.

The prefects are:—*Boys*: Adkins, Prestidge, Evans, Holifield, Kempster, Dalrymple, Hadwen, Perryman, Brookes, Savage i, Tarver; *Girls*: J. Findon, D. Rose, A. Rutter, A. Perkins, A. Hemming, C. Hartwell, V. Sachs, D. Bailey, D. Browne, J. Davies, N. Wilkinson, M. Williams, J. Holder, R. Varney.

Sides Captains are:—*Brownies*: Adkins, J. Davies, D. Spencer; *Jackals*: Savage i, J. Findon, Josephine Holder, A. Perkins; *Tomtits*: Brookes, C. Hartwell, D. Bailey.

The School Photograph was taken on Friday, June 10th.

The afternoon of Friday, May 20th, was devoted to the running of a large number of heats for the Sports.

A party of senior pupils is visiting Paris during the coming holidays, and we hope to have a great deal to report about their experiences in the December magazine.

The French orals took place on Monday, May 30th, and the German orals on Thursday, June 23rd.

A SWEET DISAPPOINTMENT

As soon as the news appeared in the paper, I began to count and tick the days off on the calendar. I saved any money I could get, until I had about five shillings.

At last April 24th dawned, and sweets were declared off the ration for the first time since 1942. As early as possible I got up and went down the street. Outside a large confectionery shop I saw a long queue. I joined the queue and waited for about half-an-hour. At nine o'clock the doors were opened and in swarmed the children and grown-ups.

The queue began to shorten until there was only a man in front of me. The man moved from the counter, and the girl who was serving looked at the long queue still left, and said she was sold out.

I made my way as quickly as possible to the other shops; each one in turn gave the same answer, "Sold Out." At last I went home for dinner with my money still in my purse. Oh, what a sweet disappointment!

SYLVIA GRIFFIN

(Upp.IV.a).

AN ESCAPADE

A certain cousin of mine, who lives near me, did not know what to do with himself. He had tried throwing stones, chasing chickens, and teasing his small sister; but none of these things seemed to interest. He could not play cricket with the other boys simply because it was Sunday, and his father would not let him.

He then had a grand idea! In his father's orchard were a number of old apple, pear, plum, and walnut trees. These he thought he would climb. He succeeded in climbing a few of the fruit trees, and then decided to try his luck at climbing a walnut tree. Now a walnut tree, as you probably know, has a smoother bark than the fruit trees, on which you are more liable to slip, especially if you have no gym shoes. Anyway, my cousin succeeded, with some difficulty, in getting up the tree. He looked round from his lofty perch, saw what there was to see, and then decided to come down. He then found he could not get down.

Soon afterwards his mother came out and saw the fix he was in; she rang up his father, who happened to be at Grandma's. His father hurried home in his car, and when he got home, fetched one of his tallest ladders and propped it up against the walnut tree; upon which my cousin climbed safely down. He was not really hurt, but only shaken, but all the same I don't think he'll climb the walnut tree again—do you?

E. FINNEMORE

(Low.V.b).

SPORTS DAY, 1949

The thirty-sixth Annual Sports Day was held on Thursday, June 2nd.

As usual, the great activity witnessed on Sports Day was only the climax of the hurried efforts made during the preceding weeks. The field had received rough usage at the hands of football enthusiasts in the Autumn term and then, before the turf could recover, was further mangled during the school's first hockey season. Nevertheless, by Sports Day a surprisingly large growth of grass had appeared where such a short time before only the hardier plantains had seemed to survive. The white lines too came up rather better than had been anticipated. They were marked with a strange white substance, labelled "hydrated lime," which reacted violently on mixing with water and killed the grass. So it was that on the eve of Sports Day, with the heavy dew rendering the lines nearly invisible, all that could be seen was a series of brownish marks. Yet that was not all; a set of lines not now required had to be erased by rubbing them out with one's feet. One line in particular, due to the eager efforts of a senior member of the sixth form, was much more prominently visible after "erasure" than before!

At the beginning of term everyone was rejoicing at the fine warm weather and the prospects of a fine Sports Day. But as Whitsun approached, the weather gradually deteriorated. Dull, cloudy days were punctuated with showers of rain. By comparison with the previous warm spell, it was decidedly cold. Nor was the weather forecast at all pleasing on The Day. We were told to expect bright periods in the morning with rain spreading in the afternoon.

And so Sports Day came. In the morning, the usual eagerness and excitement were absent. The relay rehearsal even did not arouse the usual inter-house rivalry. When rain fell after only a few races had been run it damped the spirits of all even further. The spectators for the most part took refuge inside the school buildings and the field assistants under a tree, the scanty foliage of which provided them with little protection. They were anxious for the rain to stop, for they did not want to have to prepare for another Sports Day on some later occasion. After what seemed an endless time, the sun came out. The bell rang. Through the megaphone a voice summoned the competitors for the next event. Thereafter all was well. The humid atmosphere, not usually deemed desirable for such occasions, produced an exhilarating effect upon the runners, and even though traditional Sports Day weather was lacking, enthusiasm soon became as great as ever it has been in the past.

Of the events themselves I will say little, as the results speak for themselves. The right of the girls to partake in the sports was unquestioned. Whereas last year many complained that girls had never taken part in races before and lamented the passing of what they considered to be a school tradition, now their view was different. The presence of the girls on the sports field was generally accepted as an improvement (and every good school must make improvements to keep abreast of the times). After all, the school does contain more girls than boys, and they should be given an opportunity to display their athletic skill.

Like all improvements of this nature, this one also brought in its wake a number of complications. In order to accommodate these extra events, many more heats had to be run off before the day. The absence of so many of the customary races produced mingled feelings among the spectators. Now that they had become reconciled to the existence of girls' races, however, more interest was taken in these and less in those they had displaced. The discovery that the senior boys' slow bicycle race had already been decided caused much consternation, but the middle-school race partly compensated for this loss. On the other hand, the hurdles heats were not missed at all, as they are generally regarded as rather a bore in any case. The task of the organisers was made even more difficult, because of the greater number of entrants, than it was before the girls were included. To them indeed much credit is due for the smoothness with which the afternoon passed.

Towards the end of the races tea was served in the canteen. Afterwards came the final assembly and the presentations. The prizes were distributed by the Chairman, Mr. Mason, who filled the gap caused by the death of the Rev. J. Andrews. The sports being the chief attraction of the day, the sports medals, and especially the Shield and Victor Ludorum Cup, were highly coveted. The announcement of the winner of the cup caused no surprise and little concern. The Shield was another matter. The Brownies, confident that they would repeat their success of last year, could not suppress a slight feeling of anguish when the Tomtits proved to be a worthier side.

The proceedings were brought to a close by the singing of the School Song, followed by the National Anthem. Here a new idea was tried out; conducted by Perryman, the school sang without the usual piano accompaniment.

Despite the disappointing weather at the beginning, Sports Day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

RESULTS

The results were as follows:—

(B.—Brownies; J.—Jackals; T.—Tomtits).

OVER 15

BOYS

- 100 yards—1, Tarver (J); 2, Baylis (B); 3, Adkins (B); 4, Brookes (T).
(Time, 19.5 secs.)
- 220 yards—1, Tarver (J); 2, Evans (B); 3, Adkins (B); 4, Brookes (T).
(Time, 25.6 secs.)
- 440 yards—1, Tarver (J); 2, Adkins (B); 3, Evans (B); 4, Brookes (T).
(Time, 59.0 secs.)
- Half Mile—1, Tarver (J); 2, Gray (T); 3, Savage i (B); 4, Paddock (B).
(Time, 2 mins. 26.5 secs.)
- Hurdles—1, Adkins (B); 2, Evans (B); 3, Baylis (B); 4, Tarver (J).
(Time, 13.4 secs.)
- Obstacle—1, Bamford (B); 2, Dalrymple (B); 3, Brookes (T); 4, Gray (T).
- Slow Bicycle—1, Adkins (B); 2, Gray (T); 3, Hill (T); 4, Stanley (T).
- High Jump—1, Adkins (B); 2, Brookes (T); 3, Blundell i (T); 4, Bamford (B).
(Height, 5 ft. 1½ ins.)
- Cross Country—1, Tarver (J); 2, Gray (T); 3, Evans (B); 4, Adkins (B).
(Time, 24 mins. 3 secs.)

- The Mile—1, Tarver (J) ; 2, Evans (B) ; 3, McCarthy (J) ; 4, Gray (T).
(Time, 5 mins. 19 secs.)
Long Jump—1, Adkins (B) ; 2, Brookes (T) ; 3, McCarthy (J) ; 4, Hadwen (T).
(Distance, 17 ft. 11½ ins.)
Throwing the Cricket Ball—1, Baylis (B) and McCarthy (J) ; 3, Adkins (B) ;
4, Brookes (T). (Distance, 81 yds. 3 ft.)

GIRLS

- 100 yards—1, D. Bailey (T) ; 2, S. Dyke (T) ; 3, R. Varney (B) ; 4, J. Hopkins (B).
(Time, 13.2 secs.)
220 yards—1, R. Varney (B) ; 2, D. Bailey (T) ; 3, S. Dyke (T) ; 4, J. Hopkins (B).
(Time, 31.6 secs.)
Hurdles—1, D. Bailey (T) ; 2, R. Varney (B) ; 3, B. Bryan (B) ; 4, Janet Holder (T).
(Time, 16.0 secs.)
High Jump—1, D. Bailey (T) ; 2, V. Sachs (J) ; 3, J. Birch (J) ; 4, D. Spencer (B).
(Height, 4 ft. 6 ins.)
Throwing the Rounders Ball—1, D. Bailey (T) ; 2, A. Hemming (J) ; 3, M. Cund (T).
(Distance, 53 yds. 1 ft. 7 ins.)
Hop, Step and Jump—1, J. Birch (J) ; 2, D. Bailey (T) ; 3, R. Varney (B) ;
4, D. Spencer (B). (Distance, 29 ft. 9 ins.)

13—15**BOYS**

- 100 yards—1, Alder (B) ; 2, Trout i (J) ; 3, Pearce (T) ; 4, Savage iii (J).
(Time, 12.0 secs.)
220 yards—1, Alder (B) ; 2, Pearce (T) ; 3, Miller i (T) ; 4, Trout i (J).
(Time, 30.4 secs.)
Half Mile—1, Turner (J) ; 2, Sharpe i (T) ; 3, Shelton i (T) ; 4, Pearce (T).
(Time, 2 mins. 34.6 secs.)
Slow Bicycle—1, Edkins (B) ; 2, Trout i (J) ; 3, Hemming (T) ; 4, Miller i (T).
Obstacle—1, Trout i (J) ; 2, Wesson (B) ; 3, Savage iii (J) ; 4, Clark (T).
Hurdles—1, Alder (B) ; 2, Pearce (T) ; 3, Turner (J) ; 4, Sharpe i (T).
(Time, 15.2 secs.)
High Jump—1, Pearce (T) ; 2, Trout i (J) ; 3, Savage iii (J), Sutor (J) and Sharpe i
(T). (Height, 4 ft. 4½ ins.)
Long Jump—1, Sharpe i (T) ; 2, Pearce (T) ; 3, Savage iii (J) ; 4, Shelton i (T).
(Distance, 14 ft. 6½ ins.)
Cross Country—1, Burden ii (J) ; 2, Davies i (T) ; 3, Sutor (J) ; 4, Fogg (B).
(Time, 15 mins. 35 secs.)
Throwing the Cricket Ball—1, Turner (J) ; 2, Shelton i (T) ; 3, Pearce (T) ; 4,
Miller i (T). (Distance, 65 yds.)

GIRLS

- 100 yards—1, A. Wilson (T) ; 2, D. Mortimore (T) ; 3, J. Dayer-Smith (T) ; 4,
B. Philips (J). (Time, 13.4 secs.)
160 yards—1, B. Philips (J) ; 2, P. Tipping (B) ; 3, A. Wilson (T) ; 4, B. Clarke (B).
(Time, 24.1 secs.)
Obstacle—1, P. Tipping (B) ; 2, S. Jones (T) ; 3, M. Taylor (T) ; 4, S. Tipping (J).
High Jump—1, S. Tipping (J) ; 2, A. Wilson (T) ; 3, D. Mortimore (T) ; 4, S.
Jones (T). (Height, 4 ft. 3 ins.)
Throwing the Rounders Ball—1, S. Thompson (J) ; 2, W. Lovell (J) ; 3, G. Rawlings
(T). (Distance, 46 yds. 1 ft.)
Hop, Step and Jump—1, B. Clarke (B) and G. Winspear (J) ; 3, M. Woodfield (J)
and J. Dayer-Smith (T). (Distance, 27 ft. 7 ins.)

UNDER 13.**BOYS**

- 100 yards—1, Aspinwall (T) ; 2, Goodman (B) ; 3, Shelton ii (J) ; 4, Miller ii (B).
(Time, 13.2 secs.)
220 yards—1, Shelton ii (J) ; 2, Cottrill (T) ; 3, Weaver (B) ; 4, Goodman (B).
Obstacle—1, Sharpe ii (B) ; 2, Shelton ii (J) ; 3, Peace i (T) ; 4, Cleeton (T).
Egg and Spoon—1, Weaver (B) ; 2, Paxton (T) ; 3, Aspinwall (T) ; 4, Pinfeld iii (J).
Sack—1, Keyte ii (B) ; 2, Weaver (B) ; 3, Shelton ii (J) ; 4, Gillett (J).

Three-Legged—1, Goodman and Sharpe ii (B) ; 2, Aspinwall and Francis (T) ;
 3, Shelton ii and Gould (J).
 High Jump—1, Goodman (B) ; 2, Gould (J) and Francis (T) ; 4, Aspinwall (T).
 (Height, 3 ft. 9 ins.)
 Long Jump—1, Cottrill (T) ; 2, Shelton ii (J) ; 3, Weaver (B) ; 4, Goodman (B).
 (Distance, 12 ft. 4 ins.)

GIRLS

75 yards—1, A. Easton (B) ; 2, M. Salmons (B) ; 3, P. Biddle (T) ; 4, K. Norton (J).
 (Time, 9.6 secs.)
 High Jump—1, M. Salmons (B) ; 2, A. Easton (B) ; 3, S. George (B) ; 4, J. Roberts
 (B). (Height, 4 ft. 0 ins.)
 Skipping—1, A. Easton (B) ; 2, K. Norton (J) ; 3, J. Kerry (B) ; 4, J. Winspear (J).
 Obstacle—1, A. Easton (B) ; 2, E. Lewis (J) ; 3, S. George (B) ; 4, R. Dyer (B).

OTHER EVENTS

Tug of War (Boys)—1, Brownies ; 2, Jackals.
 Relay (Boys)—1, Brownies ; 2, Tomtits ; 3, Jackals.
 Relay (Girls, 13-15)—1, Tomtits ; 2, Brownies ; 3, Jackals.
 Relay (Girls over 15)—1, Tomtits ; 2, Brownies ; 3, Jackals.

The following presentations were made :—

Victor Ludorum Cup—Tarver (J) with 50 points.

Victrix Ludorum Cup—D. Bailey, with 31 points.

Junior Victrix Ludorum Cup—A. Easton, with 18 points.

Silver Medals—Burden ii, Alder, Pearce, Tarver, Gray, Evans, Adkins, A. Easton,
 D. Bailey.

Bronze Medals—Davies i, Goodman, Weaver, Shelton ii, Trout i, Turner, Cottrill,
 Sharpe i, Baylis, McCarthy, Brookes, R. Varney, J. Birch, M.
 Salmons, A. Wilson, P. Tipping.

Cross Country Cup—Tomtits.

Sports Shield—Tomtits (288 points).

(Jackals scored 266 points and Brownies 261 points.)

J.P.

SPORTS DAY, INDOORS

For a week before Sports Day there was a great deal of frenzied activity amongst the members of the three Houses. Once again the Arts and Crafts were to be exhibited on Sports Day, and everybody was very anxious that the display should be quite as good as in previous years. Unfortunately, although the quality of the majority of the exhibits was quite as high as before, the quantity was not.

This we were prepared for, however, because we had already given one exhibition this school year—on Speech Day. The pupils had gallantly attempted to complete their work and enter it, but the work of one term and a half can hardly be expected to equal in amount that of the normal three terms.

However, in spite of this, we were indeed glad to have both Arts and Crafts and Sports on the same day again. The same air of excitement and rivalry as in former years was all-pervading in the school. Both boys and girls alike were extremely anxious to know their results, and could obviously hardly wait for the "great day" to arrive.

Our appreciation and thanks are due to Miss Webley and to the members of staff who helped her in making this exhibition successful. The whole burden of organisation fell on their shoulders, and we are indeed grateful to them for all they have done.

RESULTS

The Edith Deans Memorial Trophy—Josephine Findon.

Silver Medals—Josephine Findon, Janet Davis.

Bronze Medal—Mavis Bennett.

Arts and Crafts Shield—Jackals (632 points).

(Tomtits scored 460 points, Brownies 417 points).

D.A.R.

A NARROW ESCAPE

One day when I went bathing down at the river with two other boys, I had a narrow escape. None of us could swim, so we were just paddling around in the shallow water. Two people in a boat came rowing up the river and we helped them carry the boat through the shallow water into the deeper part. They thanked us and gave us sixpence each. One of the boys had a ball in his pocket and we started to throw it to each other. Unluckily for me I missed it and went to fetch it, as the current had carried it away. When I had gone about ten yards I fell down a hole where the stones had been washed away. I went under and took in a lot of water. When I came up again I tried to swim but went under again. After I had gone about twenty yards the water became shallow. I lay on the bank gasping for breath and coughing up all the water I had swallowed. All my clothes were soaking wet, but, with the help of the two boys, I managed to get to my bike and ride home. When I reached home I had a good scolding from my mother, which ended my bathing career.

PEACE
(Low.IV.a).

THE GAME

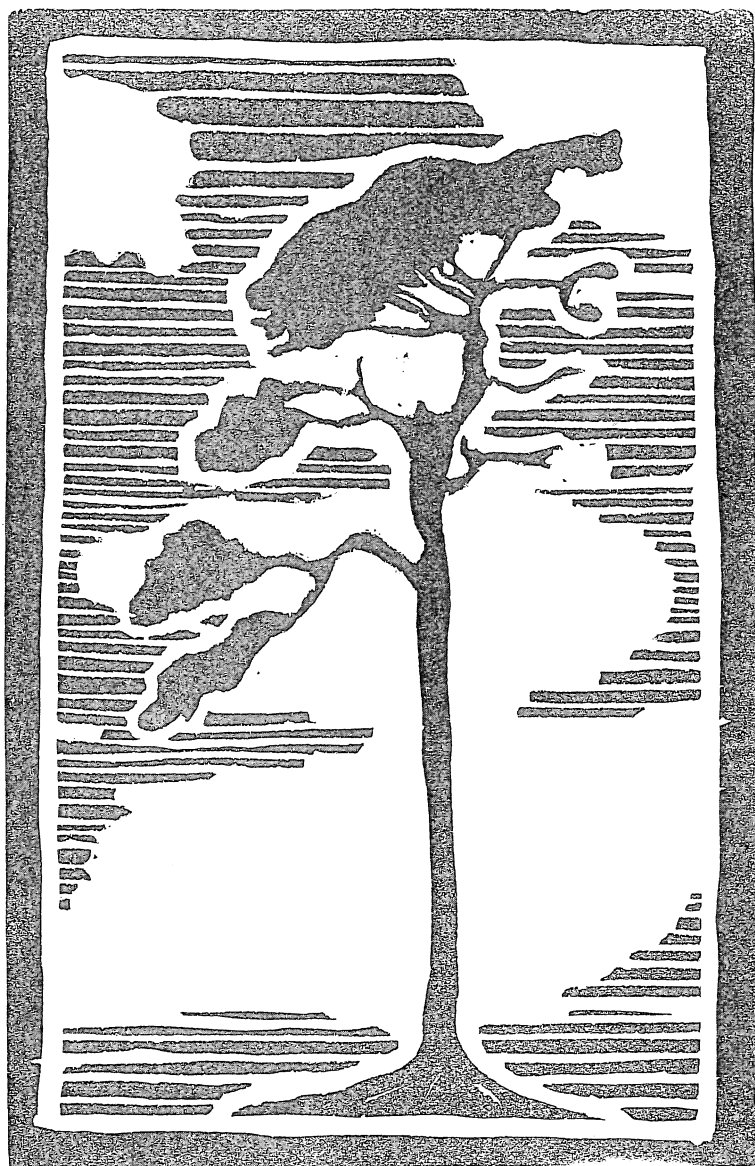
Friday morning's here again,
Bother ! Is it going to rain ?
For cricket we all hope to play,
And always wish for a fine day.

Hurrah ! It's going to be fine,
And we have just come off the line.
Now the game has just begun,
The first man's out with just one run.

And now the seventh man is out,
For him the boys all give a shout,
'Cos he has made the highest score,
And brought us up to fifty-four.

Now the first ball to me is bowled;
I block it just as I've been told,
And when I think I'm having luck,
Another ball—out for a duck.

TREVOR
(Low.IV.b).



Janet Davies

THE LONE PINE

RIDING AROUND IN CIRCLES

One Easter we spent our holiday in London. One day on this holiday we decided to go to the Zoo. As the buses were packed, we went on the underground train. We arrived at Regent's Park Station, and my Auntie and myself got off. My other Auntie and Uncle, who were seated farther down the train, had to wait longer to get off. As you know, the electric doors of underground trains, like time and tide, wait for no man, and just as my Auntie and Uncle were about to step off, the doors slid to and they were trapped. We gesticulated wildly to them and they gesticulated wildly to us, but it was of no use. The train slowly drew out of the station, and they were gone. We caught the next train to follow them, but when we got there they had gone. We asked a porter if he had seen them and he said that a lady and gentleman answering to the description we had given him had caught the next train back to Regent's Park Station. When we got back to Regent's Park Station we found a very flustered Auntie and Uncle just about to catch the next train down to find us.

As Auntie says, we were very lucky to have found them, as we might have gone backwards and forwards for hours without finding them. Now when anybody mentions the Zoo we hardly dare look at my Auntie and Uncle.

PAT WELLUM

(III.a.).

A MEDLEY OF MISTAKES

Although so many people grumble today, if only they would stop to think they would see the funny side of things. Adverts., for instance.

Lost.—Nigger leather Handbag. Light brown in colour !

Home for bulldog puppy; will eat anything, especially fond of children !

Advert. outside Shop :

Cod and chips 2/-, Children 1/-.

Notices on Church doors :

The speaker will address the meeting on Thursday. After which the church will be closed for extensive repairs.

The speaker for tomorrow will be nailed to the church door.

In shops :

Some absent-minded people say peculiar things in shops :—

" Two jars of meat paste, please; salmon and shrimp."

" Is the basement upstairs or down ? "

" Tin of blacking, light tan, if you've got it, please."

JOY PARRISS

(Upp.IV.a.).

COMMENTARY ON ?

In the little village of Bowling Green, in Batmenshire, it was a great day. The county cricketers had come to play the Bowling Green eleven.

At five minutes to two, the umpires walked on to the pitch. At two o'clock prompt, the county eleven trooped out and ran to their places on the field. They had won the toss and elected to field first. The opening batsmen, Stan Dwell and Richard Hit, stalked out of the tiny pavilion behind the fielders, pulling on their gloves as they walked. Jeremiah Owsthat was bowling to Stan Dwell.

Owsthat begins his over.

One, two, three, four fourteen, and he brings his arm over. Stan Dwell raises his bat slightly to come down on the ball, having chosen his place to hit it, but the ball is not there. He feels something hit him very hard on the leg and hears a sharp cry of "Owzat ?" from the bowler. The umpire nods and the number one batsman of the team retires to the pavilion while Jim Akerun takes his place. The score is none for one.

Owsthat bowls his second ball. Jim Akerun hits it hard and high for a six into the pavilion. The inhabitants of Bowling Green begin to breathe again. The next ball Jim Akerun tries to cut but is caught behind the wicket by Peter Eadyman. Six for two wickets ! Oh dear !

Jeremiah Owsthat, in the remaining three balls of the over, gets the same number of batsmen out, without a run being scored, two L.B.W. and one clean bowled. (The cricket enthusiasts of the village look unhappily at the ancient score-board inscribed six for five wickets. Worse and worse ! They all hope the next bowler will not be so good.)

Catiline, commonly called, for short, "Cat," Chim, is the next bowler. He is a slow, left-arm spinner and has his field close in, ready for catches. Richard Hit swings his bat at the ball, but only touches it with the edge, deflecting it a little. Peter Eadyman makes a second catch behind the wicket. Poor Dick ! In trying to live up to his name, and in trying to get the ball past the ring of fielders, he had been caught.

Jocelyn Ewball hits the next ball, with an unexpected stroke of genius, and it trickles through to the boundary for four. As he tries to do the same to the next ball he lifts it and is caught. When he reaches the pavilion he whispers a friendly word of advice to Jasp Inner. It is of no avail, however, as after the next ball, Jasp returns and by the end of the over, both his companions have taken their stance and been dismissed for a duck. The score is ten for ten wickets (what a score !). Denis Topball is not out, duck.

The unlucky Bowling Green players were easily beaten after the Batmenshire County Cricket Eleven's opening bat, Elgood Bat, had hit the four balls of Jocelyn Ewball's over. Bat hit two fours and two two's. The spectators returned home sadly after seeing the local team beaten by ten wickets and two runs.

BARBARA DRULLER

(Low.V.a.)

MY UNLUCKY SATURDAY

It was Saturday morning, and the day had started badly for me, because when drying the crocks after breakfast, I dropped a cup, and I thought, "That's ninepence I shall have to pay."

I went to the sweet shop and said, "Can I buy half-a-pound of chocolates like those mother had?" Then I said, "How much will that be, please?" and I was told, "two and sixpence." I knew I had only two and threepence in my pocket and felt very confused. So I said, "I've only got two and threepence; shall I go home and get the other threepence?" and the shopkeeper said, "Yes, please." By the afternoon I had finished the chocolates and felt that it had been half-a-crown wasted.

Later I turned on the wireless to listen to the Cricket results, and much to my disappointment the wireless would not work, so I looked through the Radio Times to see what programmes I should miss because of the wireless being broken. Then I saw that the cricket results had finished ten minutes before I had turned on the wireless. I should have missed the cricket results in any case.

What a day !

H. FEAST
(Upp.IV.b.)

OLLA PODRIDA

An Upper Fifth Biology student has discovered "haricot veins" and "Utopian tubes."

"He laid his head," says a member of Upper Four B., "on the excursion block, and was only just saved in time."

"You can work that out from first principles without knowing anything," says J.B.D.

He was rarified (i.e. less dense), when he had been shown the way, writes F.D.

"Have I got to work till the end of time, sir?" asked a Chemistry examination candidate.

J.S., when visiting a theatre in Paris, must have looked like a broody hen, since he said, "J'ai couvé au milieu de la salle."

The statue was made of four small boys, states R.V.

From a letter: "I am visiting Paris in the summer, and my boy friend is coming to."

CRITICS' CORNER

" 'Ere they cum, ' hopenin' th' innings. It's Old Bill ! Got Young Derek with 'im, too."

" 'Aren't dun' too well, has 'ee? "

" Nope, that 'e 'aint. Got that fast chap on to bowl, I see."

" 'Aren't found 'is length yet."

" Are, but 'e didn't know what to do with that 'un. Told yer, 'e's 'ad it. Middle peg an' all."

" Never seed it, did 'e? "

" 'Ere's Fred. 'E'll 'it 'em. Good ole Fred. Look, 'e's gardnin'. (*shouts loudly*) Want my 'at, Fred? "

" Lovely shot, Fred. Drove it through them slips, 'e did. Run up ! (*Shouts loudly to fieldsman*), Get up that tree, chap ! ! "

" Well 'it, Bill. Didn't mean it to go theer, did 'e? "

(*A man cycles up to the critics*).

" Ow do, 'Arry. Muster 'a dun well, 'aven't um? "

" Are, that they 'ave. Got 'em out chip."

" Theer now, Fred's out. I knowd he 'ud. They'll never win against this lot. I see Black 'Awk won the 2.30."

" What ! ! Well I never ! "

" 'Ere's Joe. In 'is 'at, too."

" Look at 'im. Got no idea."

" Are, the captain's cum on to bowl. Never bowled for twenty year, they do say. Aren't found 'is length, neither."

" 'Ad 'im in two minds, that 'un."

" Yes, an' one good 'it 'ud win the game. Don't seem to 'it now like they did. Thirty year ago I 'it three consectutive balls up into that theer tree ! "

" Did yer, Tom? "

" Yep. Look at the fool. Gone 'an 'it 'is wicket. Told yer they'd never win. Wanted Jack theer, it did."

" Are, them were the days when Old Gilbert played."

" That weren't this century. Let's go an' get some char ! "

G. V. ADKINS

(VI).

MY SECOND DAY AT SCHOOL

When I was only five years of age and on my second day at school, an exciting thing happened to me. I used to travel from Bidford to Alcester R.C. School on the blue bus. When I went to get the bus for home at night, I got on the bus, thinking I was all right until I got as far as Coughton. Then I realised that I was on the wrong bus. Being only five years old and strange to the journey I was rather nervous and afraid. But the bus conductor soon made me feel all right again when he said, " This bus will be going to Inkberrow, but it will come back to Bidford." So I eventually arrived in Bidford at five-fifteen instead of four-fifteen. By that time my mother was getting rather worried about me, and was very pleased when I arrived home, and so was I.

KATHLEEN NORTON

(III.b).

SPORTS DAY

Our Sports Day was a great success.
 So thought the pupils, more or less.
 Even if we could not run,
 Missing lessons was great fun.
 Tomtits ahead ! Hear us shout.
 Jackals leading ? Groans about.
 Rain spoils things at this stage,
 So Arts and Crafts are now the rage.
 In a while out comes the sun,
 Back we go to resume our fun.
 Next comes the jumping. What a thrill
 When we see a rival spill.
 The Obstacle Race, alas ! alack !
 Our poor Tomtit's stuck in the sack.
 But, at last, our rivals yield,
 Hurrah ! Tomtits have won the Shield.

MAVIS A. BENNETT
 (III.a).

THE SCHOOL SHIELDS

The first award of a Sports Shield was made in 1913. The winning sides have been as follows :—

BROWNIES (14 times) : 1913, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1925, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1948.

JACKALS (11 times) : 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1923, 1924, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1937, 1947.

TOMTITS (12 times) : 1918, 1919, 1926, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1940, 1949.

The first award of an Arts and Crafts Shield was made in 1916. The winning sides have been :—

BROWNIES (15 times) : 1916, 1917, 1918, 1920, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1929, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1946, 1947.

JACKALS (7 times) : 1930, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1940, 1945, 1949.

TOMTITS (12 times) : 1919, 1922, 1924, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1944, 1948.

Both shields have been won in the same year by :—

BROWNIES (9 times) : 1920, 1921, 1925, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1946.

JACKALS (once) : 1937.

TOMTITS (6 times) : 1919, 1926, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

During the past three months the Society's activities have been rather interrupted by sports events, but some interesting meetings have been held. Some quite successful portraits were taken of a few of the members, and three lantern lectures have been held. Two of them were criticisms of prizewinning photographs (in Johnson's Photographic competitions), but as the third, entitled "Photographing Birds and Mammals" was of more general interest, it was held after School, and non-members were invited ; it proved very interesting.

The Society has been divided into two groups, led by Evans and Drew, to see which can produce the best folder of photographs illustrating the topic of Architecture.

Recently, the Society has decided to build a vertical enlarger for its dark room ; parts of it have been allotted to various members able and willing to undertake them.

C.J.E.K.

RADIO SOCIETY

Fewer meetings than usual have been held this term, owing to sundry interruptions such as half-term holidays, etc.

Work has been started on the building of a televisior, on which some of the members have worked after school on most days except week-ends.

A cordial welcome is extended to all enthusiasts.

P. GOWERS
(*Hon. Sec.*)

POSTAGE STAMP CLUB

In spite of numerous interruptions this term, a steady interest has been maintained by members. The call of outdoor activities tends to lessen the appeal of stamp collecting during the summer months, but there has been a regular exchange of such duplicates as members have acquired, and a number of interesting items have been displayed by members.

We wish to thank those friends who have sent along stamps for the Club.

THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY

This year, after the School Play at Christmas, the Dramatic Society has settled down to normal during the General Activities.

The following Officers were appointed : Holifield as President, Ann Perkins as Secretary, with Geraldine Bartlett, Mary Williams and Crawford forming a Committee.

Miss Young has enthusiastically led our activities, which have included a Mock Operation, Charades, and the readings of One Act Plays. It has been noticed that there is some remarkable talent for " unrehearsed and spontaneous " acting from many of the members, which has caused extreme hilarity from the " audience " on more than one occasion. We are hoping that it will be possible to use these valuable qualities to good advantage in the near future.

Fortunately, several of the members have shown reasonable organising ability, and this is most encouraging, for it is most important that when the next school play is produced the Dramatic Society shall not collapse while the "grooming" of the main characters is in progress.

A. PERKINS

MUSIC SOCIETY

On the last afternoon of the Spring Term the Society gave its final concert of the season—none being attempted this term because of the lack of time and the intervention of exams. The concert was the most successful to date, both in the quality of singing and playing, and the record attendance. Tickets were sold this time to scholars, and the proceeds devoted to the purchase of gramophone records for the Society. With the assistance of several members of the science sixth, bribed with free tickets, the art room was stripped of its furnishings and filled with all the chairs obtainable, so that as well as the choir of forty girls we were able to seat an audience of over fifty.

I wish to thank the choir sincerely for a splendid performance, especially in its rendering of "Had We But Harkened," set to Walford Davies' "Solemn Melody"; Stephanie Beauchamp for her excellent solos, and our maestro Perryman for some sparkling piano playing; also the industrious girls of the sixth who sacrificed private-study periods to write the tickets, Mr. Ackland for ready co-operation, and Miss Griffith for keen, though unfortunately limited, support.

As I leave at the end of term, I take this opportunity of wishing my successor the best of success and saying how happy I have been in my office. The support I have received and the enthusiasm I have encountered have been magnificent and will not easily be forgotten.

A. J. DALRYMPLE
(*Hon. Sec.*)

SCOUTS

Our activities this term have consisted mainly of work necessary to gain the second class badge, first aid, Kim's game and boxing the compass; and most scouts have been successful in passing these tests. The new patrol, the Peewits, has settled down; its leader is Payne.

We have acquired several articles of uniform, including lanyards, woggles and shoulder tabs, and we are trying to obtain neckerchiefs. We would welcome any article of uniform from old scholars.

The inter-patrol cricket competitions held towards the end of the term have probably been the most popular of all our activities. At the time of writing, however, the results are not known. It has been arranged that at the end of the term a scout cricket eleven shall play a team representing the rest of the school.

A. G. BLUNDELL
(*Troop Leader*)

CRICKET, 1949

Captain: Adkins. *Vice-captain*: Evans.

Secretary: Holifield. *Committee-member*: Savage i.

With most of last season's players still at school, the 1st eleven is well-balanced, and has so far met with reasonable success.

At Stratford, the home team batted first, and put on 18 before a wicket fell. Our spin attack took toll of the following batsmen, and the Stratford total was 33. Indecisive batting spoilt our chances, and we were all out for 29.

Visiting Hanley Castle G.S., we were put in to bat, and met with some very hostile bowling. We scored only 11, and Hanley soon knocked off the runs for the loss of one wicket.

A game at Ragley with Chipping Campden followed. We batted first, and showing determination, the side played consistently to score 93. Campden opened with a first wicket stand of over 30. When the last man came in with 17 needed, the result was very open, as their captain was still in, and well set. But a smart piece of stumping finished off the innings, and gave us our first victory.

The next game was at Redditch. We batted first on a wet wicket, but seven wickets fell for 11 runs. However, a stand between Hadwen and Blundell ii pulled the game round, and we reached 53. On a drying wicket Redditch wickets fell regularly. They totalled 31.

Our chief trouble this season has been to find an opening partner for Brookes. The fielding has been keen, and bowling quite good.

The 2nd eleven have had practice with the 1st team, and should have several games later on in the season.

The following boys have played in matches:—Adkins, Evans, Holifield, Savage i, Hadwen, Bamford, Brookes, Buckley, Blundell ii, McCarthy, Drew, Turner and Alder.

RESULTS

- A.G.S. 1st. XI. v. Stratford K.E.S. (away), lost 29—33.
v. Hanley Castle G.S. (away), lost 11—12 for 1.
v. Chipping Campden G.S. (home), won 93—77.
v. Redditch C.H.S. (away), won 53—31.
v. Chipping Campden G.S. (away), drawn 54 for 8 (decl.)—42 for 5:
v. Redditch C.H.S. (home), lost 62—66 for 8.

Sides Matches : Jackals, 129 for 2 (decl.), Tomtits 56; Brownies 93, Tomtits 29.

TENNIS, 1949

Captain : Josephine Holder. *Vice-captain* : Janet Holder.

Secretary : Anne Hemming.

This term we have had a completely new tennis team, as the whole of last year's team have left. We have, however, managed to get a fairly strong team together.

In the first three matches of this term we have been very successful, winning all three easily.

This term we have continued the Challenge system, and this enables girls to play a match of five games during the lunch-hour.

The 1st VI. this term has been: Janet Holder, Josephine Holder, Janet Davies, Anne Hemming, Norma Wilkinson, Ann Chavasse.

RESULTS

- A.G.S. 1st. VI. v. Evesham P.H.G.S. (home), won, 6 sets—3 sets.
 v. Evesham P.H.G.S. (away), won, 6 sets—3 sets.
 v. Chipping Campden G.S. (home), won, 6 sets—3 sets.
 v. Studley College (home), lost, 1 set—8 sets.
 v. Redditch C.H.S. (away), lost, 2 sets—7 sets.
 v. Chipping Campden G.S. (away), won, 63 games—54 games.
 v. Worcester C.H.S. (away), lost, 4 sets—5 sets.

Sides matches:—Jackals 6, Brownies 3; Tomtits 6, Brownies 3; Tomtits 7, Jackals 2.

ROUNDERS, 1949

Captain: Anne Rutter

Vice-captain: Rosamund Varney.

This term two rounders teams have been organised. Unfortunately the first team lost their first match of the season against Chipping Campden Grammar School. Both the senior and junior teams have been practising very hard, and they meet Redditch County High School on Saturday, June 18th.

The two teams are:—

1st eleven: A. Rutter, R. Varney, V. Sachs, F. Highman, M. Williams, G. Malpass, M. Vincent, W. Lovell, M. Woodfield.

2nd eleven: D. Browne, J. Codling, G. Winspear, J. Hammond, P. Aspinwall, A. Wilson, E. Craddock, B. Druller, M. Bott.

RESULTS

- A.G.S. 1st IX. v. Chipping Campden G.S. 1st IX. (home), lost 2—5.
 1st IX. v. Redditch C.H.S. 1st. IX. (away), lost, 0—17.
 2nd. IX. v. Redditch C.H.S. 2nd. IX. (away), lost, 1—23½.
 1st. IX. v. Chipping Campden G.S. 1st. XI. (away), lost, 4—13.
 1st. IX. v. Worcester C.H.S. 1st. IX. (away), lost, 5—12½.
 2nd. IX. v. Worcester C.H.S. 2nd. IX. (away), lost, 2—6½.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESULTS

FOOTBALL

Sides matches (Autumn, 1948):—Brownies 1, Jackals 1; Brownies 1, Tomtits 1; Jackals 3, Tomtits 1.

HOCKEY (Boys)

- A.G.S. 1st. XI. v. Evesham P.H.G.S. 1st. XI. (away), lost, 0—6.
 2nd. XI. v. Evesham P.H.G.S. 2nd. XI. (away), lost, 3—7.

Sides match:—Jackals 3, Rest 2.

HOCKEY (Girls)

- A.G.S. 1st. XI. v. Bromsgrove C.H.S. 1st XI. (home), lost, 0—1.
 v. Old Scholars (home), drawn, 1—1.
 v. Henley Ladies (home), won, 7—1.
 2nd. XI. v. Bromsgrove C.H.S. 2nd. XI. (home), won, 2—1.

SUMMARY

		Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	For	Goals Against
1st. XI.	...	14	6	6	2	41	36
2nd. XI.	...	8	3	3	2	23	20

Sides matches:—Jackals 4, Tomtits 1; Brownies 2, Jackals 2; Tomtits 6, Brownies 2.

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